REMARKS

Prior to examination, please enter the above claim amendments. Claims 1, 3, 4, 20-22 are amended. Claims 2, 5-19, 23-29 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 4, 20-22 are pending in this application. No new matter is added by the preliminary claim amendments.

Claim 1 recites an aspect of creating the descriptive name for the communication port dedicated to an infrared transceiver. This is supported, for example, on page 7 of Applicant's specification wherein "COM4 is renamed 'Infrared Port' (or other suitable name)." For example, in a system with two infrared transceivers, the port renaming module 68 may create a descriptive name "Infrared Port No. 1" and a descriptive name "Infrared Port No. 2."

Claim 3 depends on claim 1 and recites an aspect of cycling through communications ports to determine which are currently available.

Claim 4 depends on claim 1 and recites an aspect of checking a software driver for identifying an infrared communication port.

Claim 20 recites an aspect of detecting available communication ports, identifying infrared communication ports, and renaming infrared communication ports to descriptive names in a set-top box.

Claim 21 depends on claim 20 and recites an aspect of cycling through communication ports in a set-top box to determine which are currently available.

Claim 22 depends on claim 20 and recites an aspect of checking a software driver in a set-top box to identify an infrared communication port.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 1, 3, 4, 20-22 are in condition for allowance and requests issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

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